

THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY,
AND
COLONIAL JOURNAL.

VOL. II.]

NOVEMBER, 1826.

[NO. IX.

Important intelligence from Liberia.

WE now present to our readers, the letters recently received from the Colonial Agent in Liberia; and trust, that they will awaken new interest, and excite to higher efforts in a cause so signally favoured by Providence, so evidently conducive to the best interests of our own country, and to the regeneration of Africa.

DEAR SIR:

MONROVIA, June 20th, 1826.

Dr. Peaco, whose health is so far repaired as to admit of his setting off for Sierra Leone to-morrow, will write the Board from that place. He hopes to return to the Cape in about four weeks. I leave it to him to report the state of health to the Board, only observing, that while 13-32 of the Vine's company have died, and the survivors seem not likely soon to recover their strength of body or of mind, (the latter having in a great majority of cases been severely shattered) the Indian Chief's company, if we except one family from Baltimore, and one from Virginia, have been in a great measure exempted from dangerous sickness. This is the more remarkable, as every individual has gone evidently through

VOL. II.—No. 9.

a course of fever; of which the symptoms in very many instances were only sufficiently developed to enable the Doctor to decide on the specific character of the disease.

Under Providence, this happy escape of so large a shipment from the customary affliction of recent emigrants, is to be attributed in part, to good houses, good attendance, a good supply of excellent medicines and hospital stores; but principally to the swamps and exhalations of the maritime counties of North Carolina, among which most of them were born, and all have spent the greater part of their lives. It is a circumstance which may well demand their gratitude to Heaven, that at this moment there is more health and less disease among these people than on the day they embarked at Norfolk.

In the note to Dr. Laurie, I state the ultimate success which has crowned our endeavours for eight months past to acquire Factory Island, the key to the Bassa District. I am more gratified with the circumstances attending this acquisition, than those of any preceding one. When the proposal to purchase was first laid before the proprietor and heads of the nation, it was received with a coldness which seemed to say, that, though disposed to be your friends, we will never resign to you an inch of our country. We want your trade, and we value it, but we value our country and independence more.—I was satisfied nothing could be gained, but much might be lost, by attempting to subdue, by unseasonable importunity, a reluctance apparently growing out of a prudent regard to their own interests.—A grant of the perpetual use of a tract of land on the south bank of the Southern Branch of the St. John's, was accordingly accepted for the present, in lieu of the Island. A factory was immediately established on this tract, for the benefit of the Colony; and James Benson, a very judicious and deserving colonist, who lost the use of an arm on the 11th of November, 1822, was made the superintendent, with particular instructions so to conduct the business of the factory, and otherwise demean himself in all his intercourse with the people of the country, as strongly to impress them with the superiority of our character, arts, morals, and means of happiness, and with the great advantages to be expected from a settlement of civilized people in the bosom of their country. I owe it to Mr. Benson's prudence and fidelity to state, that my views have been entirely ac-

completed by his manner of conducting the factory, and the management of every part of his delicate and responsible charge. The intended impression has been most effectually made. The King, and every head man of the country, I am told, became our advocate, with Joe Harris, the hereditary proprietor of Factory Island, and though naturally wary and suspicious in the extreme, Joe was evidently waiting with some little impatience to receive our overtures, when the proposal to purchase was submitted to him, through Mr. Benson, four weeks ago. The terms were accepted by him with a few small additions to the purchase-money, (as is usual in such transactions) and the purchase and cession confirmed without delay. The deed will be executed as soon as the Doctor or myself can visit Bassa;—and we are not without the hope of annexing one or two of the other islands forming the chain of which Factory Island is the last link, to the purchase. It is expected two or three families will take up their residence on this purchase, so soon as the rains shall a little abate, preparatory to the founding of a settlement, which may be expected in a very few years, to be second to no other in the Colony, except Monrovia.

Respectfully yours,

J. ASHMUN.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

June 21st.

DEAR SIR:

Every new thought requires a fresh letter.—I am obliged to procure, printed at the Sierra Leone press, and at an immoderate price, a couple of hundreds of blank land conveyances, which I have drawn up in a concise form, that lawyers will understand, when I say that it is that of the 2d part of the conveyance by “lease and release,” with the omission of the old, (and in England, the print) clause of warranty; in lieu of which, I have substituted a form of warranty sometimes used in the United States, and which is contained in a single period.

I wish that the best form may be drawn up by some experienced conveyancer, printed, and sent out, as soon as possible. They are much needed.—We also require blank certificates of the draft of their lots, by individuals—which shall specify in brief, the date of the draft, number of the lot, the town or settlement in which it is

situated, and the sort of tenure to obtain till titles are fully secured, with the conditions on which the titles are to be had.

Having, by the blessing of God, disposed so soon, and so snugly, of the whole company of emigrants last sent from the U. States, most of whom will be on their own lands, and in their own houses in four weeks from the present time, I trust you will not think it unreasonable in us to ask for more. Let them come, my dear sir, as soon as they can be despatched, provided lumber and six or eight months' stores come with them. If they come from the south, they cannot arrive very unseasonably in any part of the year.—More funds, more activity, more emigrants—and I am satisfied. Has the hope of liberal appropriations by the state legislatures, been given up? A slave-holding state must take the lead, and give an example in the exercise of this noblest of public charities. Others will then follow. I will even answer for my own (New-York) that she cannot—her *pride*, in default of better motives, will not let her rest indifferent to such an example.

My dear sir, a third time adieu,

J. ASHMUN.

August 3d, 1826.

'The papers of this packet dated "June," were despatched by the Fidelity, who carried them as far as Sierra Leone, and there transferred them on board of the schooner "Bona," Walstrum, Baltimore, bound more directly home. Capt. Walstrum is now at the Cape. I have recovered the letters, and shall add one or two of the present date. But I write in bed; nor have I been from it since the 5th day of July. You will discover from the penmanship, that I have lost little of my strength. But the injury I sustained in my left leg in forcing the landing of our troops at Trade Town on the 13th April, has proceeded to an alarming length, and for the last six weeks caused the severest suffering. I blame my neglect of the Doctor's prescriptions for the worst of it. But the business in hand at the time was the removing of the North Carolina settlers to Caldwell, which required my presence to direct the surveys, and seemed to admit neither of delay nor a substitute. I am not sure that I can believe the ulcer in a healing state, but the severity of pain has abated. I should visit

the United States by this schooner, but dare not commit so lame a limb to the uneasy action of so small a vessel, and to such nursing as could be expected aboard. So much for myself. My health, *crure excepto*, was never better; and I am still able to devote several hours, most days, to business.

J. ASHIMUN.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

MONROVIA, August 3d, 1826.

The Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society.

GENTLEMEN:

My long confinement to my room and bed, and the severe sufferings attending it, have prevented the attention I meant before this date, to have given to our *Census*—to the *Colonial Journal*—to my accounts, and to several other interesting subjects, on which particular information has been long due to the Board, and is in part prepared.—I have still little hope of an early recovery of the power of locomotion; and am not without apprehension as to the ulterior course of a malady of so obstinate and intractable a nature. But I owe it to the merciful Providence which has so signally kept, guided and assisted me in so many past dangers and sufferings, that my general health is as perfect as ever. The abatement of the rains (which are this season more immoderate and incessant than I have known them before) hold out the earliest prospect of any material amendment with which I dare flatter myself.

To add to our embarrassment, the Doctor is at present quite as ineffective as myself. He desired me last evening in a note to say, if I wrote home by Capt. Walstrum, that he did not expect to be strong enough to write. It is now two weeks since he has been laid side; but had before that time recovered very excellent health and spirits.—No fears are entertained as to any fatal termination of his indisposition.—The African climate has indeed proved hitherto but little at variance with his constitution. But he has suffered much from its debilitating influence.

From the 21st June to the last of July, Dr. Peaco was absent from the Colony on a visit to Sierra Leone; where, I am happy to state, he has satisfactorily settled and paid Mr. Macaulay's long-standing claim against the Agency.

We are called to mourn a very afflictive bereavement, in the loss

of the Rev. Mr. Holton, whose promise of usefulness in the Colony, was flattering in a high degree—and whose convalescence was at one time so advanced as to place him in our estimation quite out of immediate danger. A relapse, induced by a slight irregularity of his diet, carried him off suddenly, on Sunday the 23d of July, 3 P. M. Every reconciling circumstance, which for the solace of his friends, could well meet in the case of so premature and regretted a death, threw its cheering light upon the exit of this excellent young man. His hopes and treasure had gone before him to that immortal state of existence which his faith anticipated, and calmness, resignation and peace were the never absent companions of his breast, in every stage of his illness, quite to the moment of the awful transition.—His papers and most valuable personal effects will be sent by the next packet—together with those of the late Mr. Force.

On the 28th July, the Packet brig John, capt. Clough, from Portland, and the Bona, a schooner from Baltimore, then lying in our roads, were boarded from a piratical brig mounting 12 guns, and manned chiefly by Spaniards, and plundered to the amount,—the brig of \$2,500, the schooner of \$2,862. The brig is discovered to be a slaver—and is a sample of nearly all the slavers at present to be found on the coast.

We have intelligence, that not less than 8 of these vessels have combined their force for the restoration of Trade-town, (the slave station lately destroyed near the Colony,) that they have commenced a battery on shore, and intend to sustain the traffic in the face of all the cruising force, that will be likely to be sent against it.—The brig which visited us on the 28th July was armed and manned from this depôt, for the expedition. The English cruisers capture slavers, on the presumption of their piratical character, with very little discrimination, and seldom fail to procure their speedy condemnation. But what is to be our situation if the establishment of these marauders at Trade-town is suffered to take place, and become permanent?—They have already given us an earnest of it. The fact is apparent, that the piratical practices of the West Indies, temporarily suppressed in that quarter, are every day renewing themselves in a more systematic array, and determined form, on this coast.—The slave trade is the pretext under which expensive armaments are fitted out every

week from Havana, and desperadoes enlisted for enterprises to this country; in which, on their arrival, the trade is either foregone entirely, or attended to as a mere secondary object, well suited to conceal from cruisers they may fall in with, their real object. I pledge myself, if called upon, to show from the evidence of incontestable facts, that this account, applies to a large proportion of the Spanish (soidisant) guinea-men at present swarming to this part of the world. Scarcely an American trading vessel has for the last 12 months been on this coast, as low as lat. 6° N. without suffering either insult or plunder, from these Spaniards. Dr. Peaco is equally desirous with myself to represent these facts effectually to the Secretary of the Navy.—It must readily occur that a force equal at least to a *sloop of war* is necessary to subdue and crush such formidable combinations, as are to be met with, of these outlaws, on the coast.

I have judged it advisable to send for preservation in the Society's office, rough, but accurate plans of the surveys from time to time accomplished,—of the public buildings, &c. The former taken from the authentic records of the Colony. Accompanying, I send

I. A complete survey of the St. Paul's—Caldwell-settlement—with the surrounding country.

II. A survey of the Stockton, including the *Half-way farms*, and showing the position of these farms relatively to Caldwell.

III. The town and settlement of Monrovia—completed from the last surveys.

IV. Front side-view of the Market house of Monrovia—building.

V. End and side views of the Lancasterian school and town house of Monrovia; now nearly completed.

I also send the final receipt and discharge of the St. Paul's Kings, for the purchase money of the territory on that river.

The purchase of *Factory Island*, was definitely concluded early in July.

The boats sent out by the Government promise to be of inestimable utility to the Colony, Our establishment at the Sesters, altho' within 5 miles of Trade-town, is still sustained—cultivation, building and trade, are carrying on there on a small scale; but for want of rainy-season-craft, little has been done to advance it since

the month of May.—Bassa-factory is a source of very valuable supplies to the Colony. We keep up at this inclement season, an intercourse with this place along the beach—but the transportation of goods or produce by this route is expensive and laborious—and there is a considerable amount of property remaining there which we leave to the dry season.

I cannot well express to the Board, the general gratification felt here in the establishment, at length, of a line of packets between the United States and this Colony, on which it is believed dependence can be safely placed.—The entire cargo of the brig John, (the first of the line) which arrived July 22d from Portland, the 9th of April, was instantly purchased—and another vessel is expected early in October.

The board will recollect the mention of the arrangement with Mr. C. merchant of Portland, in a former letter, by which he engaged to place two or more brigs on this line, in order that four arrivals may be depended upon in the year. I stated to him (Mr. C.) explicitly, that he must engross the trade of the Colony only by means of a fair competition, and this he might do for the present, by

1st. Making the supplies certain.

2d. Laying in all such goods and stores, and such only, as should be ordered.

3d. Always bringing a deck-load of lumber.*

4th. Holding his merchandise, &c. at the following prices—

Tobacco,	100	per cent. on the American Invoice.
Rum,	75	do. do.
Salted provisions,	45	do. do.
Flour,	75	do. do.
Butter, Lard,	75	do. do.
Lumber,	100	do. and all other goods and merchan-

dise, at 50 per cent.

The experiment has completely justified the anticipation on which it was founded. Our port regulations prohibiting on penalty of the forfeiture of the amount, any goods introduced into the Colony, from being sold on credit—when I say that the cargo of

* In the consignment per the John has arrived 42 Ms. feet of lumber, and 8 house frames.—I have bought for the public and for myself 4 frames and 9 M. feet boards.—Dr. P. nearly an equal quantity.

the John has been wholly disposed of in ten days, the Board will understand me to say that it has all been also *paid for*.—The amount, after deducting the part carried off by the pirates on the 28th, is about \$11,000.

The Board will learn on the arrival of the John in the United States, probably about the middle of October, that I have judged it necessary to purchase a quantity of provisions and merchandise in order to carry our numerous emigrants by the Vine and Indian Chief, through the rains, and pay, at an early date, for Factory Island. The bills for the balance not paid in wood, will be at 30 days sight.

Either the Dr. or myself will probably visit the United States before another expedition can leave that country for the Colony. I shall probably yield the point to him, as I am too thoroughly African in my habit, I fear, to survive the severity of an American winter: and must wait the return of another summer.

My note of June, respecting the establishment of a colonial wholesale store, must now be taken in connexion with the fact, at the date of that letter not known, that Mr. C. has acceded to a proposal of a similar nature—which, tho' it does not wholly preclude the utility of another store, yet diminishes the probability of the profits being so great or so certain, as was before to be anticipated.

The great work at this moment in hand, and in which we have called upon all the colonists to assist, is the construction of a battery at Thompson-town, on a shelf 80 feet above the water, to overlook and command our roads. We are transporting the heaviest of our guns there—and erecting a roofed breast-work of turf and mason-work, which is intended to be entirely shot-proof. Our best gunners say, that from the position chosen, the long guns will hull a vessel lying at the customary anchorage oftener than every second shot: and from repeated trials I do not doubt it. Friendly vessels can draw up under the land out of the reach of any annoying force not exposed to the shot of the battery: which it is intended to make impossible for any slaving ships to stand.

The Board is respectfully solicited to direct their early attention to the deplorable want of schools under which the Colony now labours. All our former arrangements are confounded, and our hopes blasted on this interesting subject, by the lamented death of

the Rev. Mr. Holton. A gentleman from the southern part of the country, especially the alluvial country of the southern states, need be under no apprehension of suffering severely or permanently in his health in consequence of removing to Africa.—A female of superior accomplishments for training our numerous girls and young women, is scarcely less needed than the first. And as our hopes have been so highly excited by the provision made for carrying on the printing establishment, a severe mortification and several sore inconveniences must be the consequence of a disappointment in regard to it.—The patronage that will be afforded to a paper by the settlers will diminish the burden of supporting a printer.

August 4th.

It has been this morning determined that Dr. Peaco should visit the United States, by the Liberia packet John, which may be expected some time in October, to arrive at Boston.—The reasons we have to assign, are

1st. The restoration of the Doctor's health.

2d. To report to the Navy Department, the exact state of the Agency—and of the exposed state of the American commerce on this coast, and to procure, if possible, an immediate visit of a ship of war to this country.—He may likewise be very useful in forwarding another outfit to Africa, and intends, *at all events*, to return so soon as another company of emigrants shall arrive.—The John is expected to sail from Montserado about the 15th of August (inst.)

Respectfully, gentlemen,

I have the honour to remain, your obedient servant,

J. ASHMUN.

The following statement is an approximation to the true amount of exports, obtained from the best data that can at this time be recurred to.—It is my opinion that the ivory is considerably overrated—and the wood underrated in nearly the same proportion.

A.

Statement of Exports from Liberia, of African produce passing thro' the hands of the settlers, from the 1st of January, to the 15th of June, 1826.

By the Union of Portland, January, 130 tons wood, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons ivory,
 “ Union of Bristol, Eng. do. 40 do. $\frac{1}{2}$ do.

By the Paragon of Boston, January, 20 tons wood, 1 ton ivory,

"	L'African of Nantes,	do.	10	do.	1	do.
"	Miles Standish of Prov.	Feb.	12	do.	2	do.
"	Vine of Boston,	do.	6	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	do.
"	Harriet of Barbadoes,	do.	25	do.	1	do.
"	Lala Rookh of S. Leone,	do.	40	do.	3	do.
"	Pedlar of R. Island,	do.	10	do.	$\frac{1}{4}$	do.
"	James Cumberman of Barbadoes,	March,	12	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	do.
"	Pitt of Bristol, Eng.	do.	2	do.	$\frac{1}{4}$	do.
"	Indian Chief of Norfolk,	April,	6	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	do.
"	Teresa of Laguayra	do.	4	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	do.
"	Tom Cod of Bristol, Eng.	do.	4	do.	$\frac{1}{2}$	do.
"	Fidelity of Baltimore,	June,	12	do.	2	do.

Total, 533 tons wood, 16 tons ivory.

African selling value, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Wood at } \$60-\$19,980 \\ \text{Ivory at 75 cts.}-\$24,000 \end{array} \right\} \$43,980$

The gross profit to the Exporters of the foregoing produce is,—
 On the sale of the goods given in barter for it, - \$21,990
 On the freight, or enhanced value, in the American and
 European market, above the African value, - - 8,796

Total profit, \$30,786

The whole of this profit might have been secured to the Society by two voyages of her vessels, had the proposed commercial establishment been in full operation; and the primary object of transporting emigrants, been successfully going on at the same time.*

B.

Proposed Tariff of selling prices at the Society's Colonial warehouse, compared with the prices actually paying by Colonists to transient trading vessels.

Articles.	Quantity.	Proposed prices.	Actual prices.
Tobacco, - - -	100lbs.	\$15	\$25
Lumber, - - -	m ft.	30	45

* It ought to be stated that the funds of the Society have never been adequate to justify regular trade with Liberia.

Articles.	Quantity.	Proposed prices.	Actual prices.
Pipes per box, - -	box.	5	7
Powder, - - -	qr.	7	9
Pork, - - -	bbl.	16	21
Beef, - - -	bbl.	13	17
Flour, - - -	bbl.	9	13
Mackarel No. 2, -	bbl.	8	12
Assorted Domestic cotton, 10 yds.		16	22
Butter, - - -	lb.	25	50
Cheese, - - -	lb.	20	50
Lard, - - -	lb.	20	40
Hams and Bacon, -	lb.	20	40
Corn Meal, - - -	bbl.	7 50	10
Nails, - - -	lb.	10	15
Iron Pots, &c, - -	cwt.	\$10	\$12
Bar Iron, - - -	cwt.	9	10
Muscovado Sugar, -	lb.	16	20
Molasses, - - -	gall.	50	75
India Stuffs, - -	yd.	16	25

These prices are fixed at about 75 per cent. advance on the American invoice prices,—50 per cent would ensure a more certain and rapid sale. But would it indemnify the seller? As there are no port charges nor duties to be paid, and no vessel will be subjected to more than 20 to 25 days delay, it is believed it may.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Review of Denham and Clapperton's expedition to Central Africa.

From the earliest times, in the most civilized and the most barbarous ages, repeated attempts have been made to become acquainted with the interior of the great continent of Africa. The ancients knew but its external borders, and those imperfectly. In their superstitious minds, Africa became the unexplored region of all that was wonderful in nature. The black colour of its inhabi-

tants, unusual to the rest of the human species, the vast and impenetrable deserts, and the fate of those who had attempted to explore them, inflamed their curiosity and excited their imaginations. Vague reports of spots of fertile ground in oceans of sand, and rumours of what had been seen by travellers more fortunate than others, gave rise to innumerable fictions. The Islands of the Blessed, whither the souls of the good were transported after death, the monstrous proportions of the human form, the wonders of animate and inanimate nature, the uncontrollable reign of savage beasts, were soon located in Africa or beyond its distant shores. It was therefore with undisguised awe that the ancients penetrated a little way into the interior, or sailed along the Atlantic coast. The most powerful nations of the time did indeed establish colonies upon its northern shores, that bind the Mediterranean; and some of those colonies attained a higher degree of wealth and civilization than even their founders. Among them, Carthage rose to be the rival and almost conqueror of Rome: and the ruins which now strew the skirts of the desert, and are found at several days' journey within it, indicate the former existence of powerful, refined, and populous communities. Nevertheless, the interior of the continent they inhabited, and its borders washed by the western ocean, were more unknown, apparently, to them than us. There are accounts of Phœnician, Carthaginian, Roman, and Grecian voyages, and expeditions by Roman and Egyptian armies, some of which were probably famished or overwhelmed in the sands of the desert, for they never returned; but no information has reached us, derived from them. For the most part, superstition, a want of those means of exploring which we possess, and a less enlightened curiosity, prevented or paralyzed their efforts.

Africa was thus descending, enveloped in fables, to posterity, when, in the middle ages, the followers of Mahomet, impelled by religious frenzy, burst into its enchanted bounds, penetrated to the centre of the continent, subjected all the natives to the Koran, and gave them permanently the Prophet's name. Chimeras fled and monsters vanished before the cimeters of the Faithful. But, unfortunately, the Saracens, though they afterwards became the most learned and polished people in the world, were then more zealous preachers and rapacious conquerors than inquisitive

travellers. Their object was to plunder, not to describe; to convert, not to enlighten: and they left Africa for us in almost the same darkness that they found it.

Considerable of knowledge, however, of that continent, was obtained from them; and their accounts have been proved by subsequent ones, to have been remarkably authentic. The Arab felt at home in the desert; it reminded him of his tents and flocks on the other side of the Red Sea. His migratory spirit and commercial habits led him wandering into the remotest regions, that his arms had reached, and even beyond the boundaries of his conquests. Mounted on his camel, distance to him was nothing. He revealed to us the existence in Central Africa, of great rivers, lakes, and towns, and populous and powerful states comparatively civilized; and gave an accurate, though not minute, description of the black inhabitants, their monarchs, manners, wars, and customs. "The only parts of the interior," says Dr. Leyden, "on which the Arabs made no impression, were Arabia and Abyssinia." The more southern part of the continent, where it begins to taper, also escaped their dominion: but even it, far towards the south along the eastern coast, is tinctured with their religious belief and domestic customs.

How long these nations and cities had existed, when and by whom founded, it is impossible to learn. The irruption of the Arabs* into Africa took place in the 7th century of the Christian era. During that and the next centuries, they gradually extended themselves over Asia, along the African shore of the Mediterranean, and ultimately into Spain; where they founded a magnificent kingdom. From thence they attempted, with a large army, to subdue France; but their further progress into Europe was there checked, for they were repulsed by Charles Martel, near Poitiers, with immense slaughter. Their unwieldy empire, after some centuries, lost all cohesion, and broke into several, each too large. Those of Spain and Bagdad attained the highest refinement and opulence. But they were all, sooner or later, weakened and ruined by civil wars and luxury. "Compulsory exile," says Dr. Leyden again, "has always been a powerful instrument in peopling the globe. Those (the natives of Africa) who fled be-

* Called Saracens from Sara or Sahara, a desert; because they came from the deserts of Arabia.

fore the Saracens, and those who were worsted in the intestine divisions that shook the Caliphate,* alike sought refuge and settlements in the depth of the interior. The precise period of the emigrations cannot be distinctly traced; but it is unquestionable, that, by the 10th or 11th century, the banks of the Niger were covered with kingdoms, in which Mahometans formed a numerous and a ruling part of the population." In several of the Negro tribes, those especially which live nearer to the western coast, only a faint tradition and some slight observances remain of their invasion. The Giagas, for instance, relate that, many years ago, a fierce people from the north overran their country and subdued them to the Koran; but that some time afterwards they revolted, and expelled their oppressors. This is probably the history of most of the Arabian conquests in the interior of Africa: at first an inundation, sweeping all before it, and impressing its own hue and character on all, and then, a reflux of the invaders,—their passage to some other region,—their gradual intermixture with the vanquished;—or, perhaps, their extermination. After you cross the great desert of the north, it is only here and there that you find a compact settlement of Moors† and Arabs,—a village, town, or nation of them; if, indeed, there be any of the latter.‡ But themselves, individually, you meet with, as merchants, travellers, soldiers, monarchs, pilgrims, and priests, throughout the continent. Their foot-steps are every where; and their intermingling with the original inhabitants has produced a singular confusion, or variety, of languages, colours, and customs.

What the Arabs themselves did not learn, or did not care to re-

* Caliph or Kalif means Vicar. The head of the Mahomedan empire, the Commander of the Faithful, was both the temporal successor and spiritual vicar of the prophet. In the divisions of the empire, however, there arose rival caliphs. The followers of Ali had one in Persia, and there was another at Bagdad, among the true and orthodox believers. A third afterwards arose in Africa, but was crushed by Saladin. Now, every petty despot of a tribe assumes that holy title, or that of Sultan, or any other pompous one that suits his vanity or fancy.

† They were called Moors, from Mauritania; through which they passed, and from which the ignorant thought they came, on their way into the south of Europe.

‡ The Shouaas are an exception.

port, they have enabled us, by their caravans that cross the deserts in all directions, to ascertain; and it is to their inroad and conquest, their pursuit of commerce, their geographical and astronomical studies, their propensity to wander, that we ultimately owe nearly all the knowledge we have of Africa.

The next account we have of that country is from Leo, surnamed Africanus, a native of Grenada in Spain. When that city, the capital of the Moorish kingdom, was taken by Ferdinand and Isabella, he sought refuge in Fez. Learned in Arabic literature, he traversed, partly as a traveller and partly as an ambassador, a great part of the continent, and wrote a description of it in Arabic. This he afterwards translated into Italian, under the auspices of Pope Leo Xth, at Rome, whither he had been carried as a prisoner. The information which he affords is very interesting and important, and has generally been found to be correct. He noted the changes and revolutions that had taken place between the time of preceding accounts and his own; and from his relation subsequent observers learn how many mutations have since ensued, occasioned by the frequent wars and unsettled character of those barbarous tribes and empires.

It was only in the beginning of the 15th century, that the attention of modern Europe was directed to Africa. The Portuguese, to extend their dominion, enlarge their knowledge, increase their wealth, and spread the Gospel, pushed their discoveries gradually along its western coasts, until, about the middle of the century, they doubled the Cape of Good Hope, and opened the channel of an immense and lucrative commerce with the Indies. They not only proceeded on to China, and possessed themselves of a large extent of Asiatic territory, but established factories and forts at the most suitable points around the coasts of Africa. They explored the Gold Coast, Congo, and Benin, and sailed far up the Senegal and Zaire, built towns on the eastern coast, of which the ruins indicate that they had begun to be populous and flourishing, penetrated a considerable distance into the country, and traded with the numerous tribes that inhabit the extensive regions on the sea-board. Their researches, and the character of the natives whom they saw, we shall take some future opportunity of detailing: at present, our object merely is, to give a sketch of the progress of attempts to penetrate into Central Af-

rica. It is not much to the credit of the Portuguese, that with all their facilities they should have acquired or transmitted so little information about the continent.

Their discoveries, however, and the wealth which they seemed to be about to realize in Africa, and the growing spirit of enterprise and curiosity, which had already led to the settlement of America, prompted other nations to follow their example. The French were the first to imitate them; and in the 17th and 18th centuries, carried their researches further than any other people had done before. They succeeded better than any other Europeans in accustoming the red men of America and the black men of Africa to the habits and thoughts of civilized society; and it is remarkable, with what apparent ease and safety they penetrated into unknown and barbarous regions, and intermixed themselves in friendly intercourse with their inhabitants. While they were fixing their line of forts along the lakes of Canada, and down the waters of the Ohio to the mouth of the Mississippi, they were holding palavers on the Senegal and Gambia. Perhaps their amiable manners, their affability and cheerfulness, suited unsophisticated man the best; while their freedom from bigotry, and the noted readiness with which they accommodate themselves to circumstances, enabled them to avoid every occasion of offence.

They were not long permitted to enjoy the fruit of their labours. In their wars with England, they soon lost their transmarine possessions, and with them yielded to the conquerors their interest and enterprise. All their connections with Africa were relinquished, but one,—the slave-trade; which still inflicts a stain on their white flag.

ENGLAND now took the lead in African discoveries, and pursued them with her accustomed ardour and liberality, and a success beyond all preceding attempts. Her expeditions have rectified all former narratives, and by their scientific observations and indubitable veracity, have added a vast store to our knowledge of the external borders, and especially the interior of the continent. They have carried her name where her rivals have never been heard of, and claimed respect and friendship for their sovereign from the kings and emperors of CENTRAL AFRICA. She is still “in the full tide of successful experiment;” and may she be re-

warded by a present addition to her commercial wealth, and the future blessings of a regenerated race!

While so many nations have thus successively, with various results, been occupied with Africa, the United States have done comparatively nothing, in a cause so worthy to enlist the generous exertions of an enlightened people. From the nature of a part of our population, we should be more interested in the success of those exertions than any other country; and from our situation, our form of government, and the character of our citizens, none, we hope, are better suited for the prosecution of such designs. It would be singular and shameful indeed, had we been as indifferent as inactive. The subject has attracted the attention of patriots, philanthropists, and statesmen among us, for many years, in every quarter of the union; and has excited as much discourse and proper feeling, as in any other part whatever of the world. Nevertheless, our efforts have been feeble, the efforts of individuals: feeble, indeed, if you consider the ultimate and grand result in view; but powerful, perhaps, in as much as they have elicited the decided approbation of the wise and good.—But this topic concerns rather the external belt and borders of Western Africa than its central regions, and rather America, indeed, than Africa. We reserve it for a subsequent number.

Having reviewed the efforts of nations in African discovery, it may be interesting to examine those of individuals. Their travels and adventures in that unknown region, among its motley and barbarous population, excite the attention more than any other narratives with which we are acquainted. The repeated failures that have preceded the attempts in which they are engaged, the importance of success, the novelty of the scene, the uncertainty of the result, the mysteries in which their further progress is enveloped, awakens our curiosity, and inspires the generous and pleasing desire of participating in their vicissitudes of suffering and joy.

Among them stands first in time and merit the African Association.* It was instituted, in England, in 1788, for the purpose of exploring Africa and meliorating the condition of its inhabitants, and was composed of gentlemen of the highest rank and distinc-

* The Sierra Leone Company, Bulama Company, African Institution, &c. confined themselves principally to the object of *colonizing*, and have ultimately succeeded. Without it nothing effectual and permanent can be done.

tion. Collecting ample funds, the association employed persons of enterprise and intelligence, to penetrate to the interior of the continent. It was their good fortune and merit, to meet with such men as Ledyard, the celebrated American traveller, Lucas, Houghton, Mungo Park, Horneman, &c. They made the attempt from almost every quarter; from the Western Coast, from Barbary, from Egypt, from the East, and from the countries that surrounded the Cape. Of most of them, we shall not say any thing at present; as it is our purpose to resume the subject hereafter, and give a summary of our knowledge of Africa, and the means by which it has been acquired, with regard to the project of establishing colonies on the Western Coast. At present we shall notice, or merely name, those who have endeavoured to penetrate into the centre, that we may better appreciate the labours and success of the gentlemen whose narrative is now before us. The devotion of them all to the dangerous pursuit, has been equalled only by their valuable discoveries and the melancholy fate of many. Ledyard lost his life by fever at Cairo, Nichols died of the same disease at Calabar, Leetzur was poisoned by a treacherous native, Houghton perished of hunger in the desert, Horneman, who had studied the Arabic language, assumed the name of Jussuf, and disguised himself as a Mahomedan, the better to effect his purpose, has now been absent for twenty-five or twenty-six years; and no certain tidings of his fate had reached us, before the recent expedition of Denham and Clapperton. Several years after his departure, a vague rumour only was brought to the coast by natives from the interior, that Jussuf was in Central Africa, highly revered as a Marabout or Mahomedan saint. No doubt was subsequently entertained, that he had perished by disease or accident, or in consequence of the detection of his real character. Clapperton met, at Kano, two Fezzan merchants residing there, who said they had been with Jussuf at the time of his death; that he passed himself off as an English merchant professing the Mahomedan faith, and died at Nyfie, of the dysentery. His papers, (which must have contained invaluable information,) together with a learned Felatah to whom he had entrusted them, were burnt, for fear of sorcery, by the superstitious natives. Mungo Park, after one arduous journey, partially successful, plunged again into the fatal country. A note, written by him from the banks of the Ni-

ger, was received; and he, as the recent expedition also learnt, was shortly afterwards massacred or drowned near Yaoury, lower down the river. Some of his books and papers are said to be in the hands of the Sultan or Governor of that place, and may be yet recovered.

While the Association were thus actively and efficiently employed, though at the expense of such inestimable lives, many private individuals, urged by curiosity, or thrown upon the coast by accident, penetrated into Africa in various directions and to various distances. Two American sailors, Adams and Riley, who were shipwrecked on the coast of Sahara, and carried by the Moors into the interior, gave some information respecting the country and its inhabitants. Their veracity has been much disputed, and no doubt in many cases justly: but the broader features of their narratives seem entitled to more credit, than the unimportant anecdotes with which they have embellished them; and whenever they unwittingly corroborate facts imperfectly ascertained before, we may believe them. A good deal of knowledge of the interior has also been obtained by English consuls and others, residing at the towns along the coast, from the natives who resort thither for the purposes of commerce.

The most celebrated private British travellers are Bruce and Salt, who entered the continent by Egypt and Abyssinia. Although they did not succeed in getting very far into what we call Central Africa, they gathered many interesting particulars about those nations whom they could not reach. Every further step of our progress has vindicated the veracity of Bruce; whose fate it was to be doubted, contradicted, and ridiculed during his life, for a narrative that is now found to be true. Campbell, and several other enterprising individuals, also accomplished journeys from the Cape of Good Hope and the eastern coast; but they did not reach the interior, and their discoveries may be noticed in a subsequent number.

The difficulties attending the exertions of individuals and companies, the fruitlessness and melancholy termination of most of their efforts, had almost checked the zeal of African discovery. Curiosity, raised to the highest pitch and baffled, was about to sink into indifference. But at the critical moment, the British

government, from an enlightened view of their commercial interests and for the benefit of science, resolved to undertake, themselves, the exploration of the continent. Nor did they confine their views to Africa. Their vessels of discovery are on every sea, their exploring parties on every shore. Franklin has penetrated, over land, to the northern and north-western coasts of America, that jut out farthest towards the pole: and while Parry is resuming his intrepid attempts to survey the same coasts by sea, and push on, if he can, to the very pole, King, who examined in 1818 and 1822 the coasts of the great continent of Australia, has turned his prow to the southern pole, to prosecute there the same inquiries that Parry and Franklin are making in the north. Owen has just returned from a minute examination of the eastern coasts of Africa, of which an account is about to be given to the public, which cannot fail to be highly interesting and useful. Denham and Clapperton have hardly escaped from Central Africa, when we hear of Laing and Clapperton's having accomplished half their journey, on their return thither by a new route, the former from the north, the latter from Benin in the south.

The British government enjoy great advantages and facilities in their expeditions into Africa; and it is to their honour that they have so amply availed themselves of them. By their connection and influence with the States of Barbary, who are masters of a portion of the desert, and can traverse the rest, from their power and religion, in safety, and who were known to have commercial and political relations with the countries of the interior, they could command such assistance as would ensure success. In 1818, by a previous arrangement with the Bashaw of Tripoli, Mr. Ritchie and Capt. Lyon were despatched on the arduous but important and interesting service of penetrating to the centre of the Continent. On the 22d of March, 1819, they set out in a caravan with the Bey of Fezzan, to whom the Bashaw had entrusted them; and passing through Sockna, Sebbah and other towns of the desert, arrived at Mourzuk, after twenty-two days' journey. This was the farthest point that they were to reach. The Bey, designing to plunder them on apprehending that they might do something, in the countries through which they travelled, to weaken his authority or diminish the profits of his traffic, detained them pur-

posely in that unwholesome climate, the hottest* in all Africa, and continually harrassed them, to interrupt their further progress. In consequence, Ritchie lost his life by fever, and Lyon was compelled to retrace his steps.

Lying in the high road of the caravans that pass from the interior to the Mediterranean, and being the capital of Fezzan whither people from all parts resorted to buy and sell, and whence excursions were often made to levy tribute from subject provinces and tribes, or to plunder neighbouring and independent ones, no point could be better situated for collecting information, than Mourzuk. But as the same region has been since traversed, under more favorable circumstances, by the recent expedition, we shall not, at present, notice their accounts more particularly.

Not discouraged by this failure, another attempt was planned more perfectly, destined to have the happiest issue, and to afford us more knowledge of Africa than any preceding one. The gentlemen selected to carry it into effect, were Major Denham, Captain Clapperton, and Doctor Oudney, who took with them William Hillman, an intelligent shipwright. They left Tripoli after several months of preparation, on the 5th of March, 1822, and set out on their journey across the desert. In 14 days they reached Sockna, a town half way between Tripoli and Mourzuk. Here they were welcomed by the inhabitants, with every appearance of sincere satisfaction. "We were the first English travellers," says Major Denham, "who had resisted the persuasion that a disguise was necessary, and who had determined to travel in our real character as Britons and Christians, and to wear, on all occasions, our English dresses; nor had we, at any future period, occasion to regret that we had done so." It obviated the jealousy and distrust that would have been excited, by an assumed character which could not have been so skilfully supported as to impose upon the natives. "In trying," he continues, "to make ourselves appear as Mussulmans, we should have been set down as real impostors."

Sockna is a walled town about a mile in circumference; and contains upwards of 3,000 inhabitants. The country around

* The thermometer stands, at 2 P. M. at from 106° to 133° for 6 or 7 months together.

produces excellent dates in abundance. Upon them the horses and camels are fed, and appeared, in a day or two, to eat them as willingly as corn.

“On the 7th of April they arrived at Mourzuk. The country through which they had passed, was diversified by the rich valley of Beniroleed, arid vallies overhung by hills of loose rocks, and plains of fine sand, with here and there, rocky eminences and patches of gravel, intermixed with fragments of shells. Often, for a considerable extent, not the least vegetation; and in no place was the ground completely covered with it, except where there happened to be a little moisture. These were the outskirts of the desert.

At Mourzuk the party met with vexatious delays, similar to those that had opposed their predecessors. Seeing that the only way of overcoming the difficulty, was to appeal to a higher power than the Sultan, Major Denham, leaving his companions, returned to Tripoli, and laid his complaints before the Bashaw. Not receiving satisfactory answers, he embarked for Marseilles, on his way to England, to represent the violation of the Bashaw's promise to his government. While lying at quarantine at Marseilles, he received a message from the Bashaw, requesting him to return, and informing him that arrangements had been made, which would enable them to penetrate, without delay or danger, into the centre of the continent. He immediately went back; and, on the 30th of October, rejoined his companions at Mourzuk.

(To be Continued.)

Extracts from Correspondents.

We have evidence in our possession, that the public sentiment of our country is growing, daily, more favorable to the design of our Institution. Confident that our cause is holy, we bless God for its advancement, and while we rejoice that the African Colony is protected and prospered, we are no less happy to perceive that its friends are becoming more numerous, decided, and active.—To our enemies (if any such we have) we would say, “if this work be of men, it will come to nought; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it.”

From a gentleman in Georgia. November 12th, 1826.

"I enclose five dollars for the Colonization Society. I feel it to be due for the pleasure I have derived from the African Repository. I see with pain, that the funds of the Society are in a depressed state, and heartily wish, I could afford to send some efficient aid. May the Lord bless this mite, and abundantly bless the Institution for which you are labouring."

From a member of the Society of Friends, North Carolina. November 11th, 1826.

"We have just returned from our annual meeting, and are authorized to get off to Liberia as many of the free people of colour as we can, in case you should charter a vessel this fall. We are now waiting for that information; and I therefore write to thee on the subject, being one of the Trustees and Managers of that people in this part of the country, and being anxious to ameliorate their and our condition by colonizing them in Africa, which plan, I do (and I believe people generally in this State,) approve in preference to sending them to Hayti or to any other place. Therefore thee will please write me immediately in reference to another shipment.

"Perhaps I may add, that 'it is presumed the number which will be willing to go, is about the same as in the last expedition, (I mean in this part of the country) though we cannot speak positively, for they seem at times encouraged, and at others discouraged. Our Auxiliary Society, at their last meeting, appointed a committee to draft a memorial to our State Legislature for aid in this great and glorious undertaking."

From a Society of female Friends, N. Carolina. Nov. 12th, 1826.

"The yearly meeting of women—Friends of North Carolina, feeling grateful for the many favors which the Society of Friends have received from the Colonization Society by the kind assistance they have given, and are still offering them in the removal of the free people of color, under our care, to a land in which they may enjoy the rights and privileges of freemen;—Friends from these motives have made a donation of fifty dollars, to the Society, which now awaits thy orders, in our hands.

"With desires that the blessing of Heaven may rest on the en-

deavours of all who are engaged in this work of humanity and justice, we subscribe ourselves thy friends."

From a gentleman in Virginia. November 14th, 1826.

"You will find enclosed fifty dollars, the amount of our collections for the current year. As to the prospects of our Society, I feel more encouraged than ever. I am decidedly of opinion that popular prejudice against us is losing strength. Our last anniversary was one of peculiar interest."

From a gentleman in South Carolina.

"Among the many praiseworthy exertions of the present age, in the cause of humanity, none more loudly calls for the patronage of our common country, than that of African Colonization. It is indeed gratifying to hear from so many different parts of our country, voices with a distinct tone, giving it their unreserved approbation. The plan of Colonization is of heavenly origin, has by heaven been prospered, and the gates of hell shall never prevail against it. Actuated by this belief, I contribute to its aid the enclosed mite, \$5. In doing this, I am persuaded that I do nothing more than what every lover of his country will do when he becomes acquainted with its design, success and prospects. As far as possible, let the exertions of citizens be united in carrying on, calmly but unremittingly, whatever plans it may be most judicious to adopt to further the interest of this cause. Private bounty, may indeed be inadequate to the work. The most which can be done in this way perhaps is to put our plans in a progressive state, and it is to be hoped, that Government will ultimately furnish whatever means a sound policy may dictate."

From a gentleman in Ohio. November 1st, 1826.

"As in all my letters, I have nothing to report but success.—Opposition I find almost invariably to give way to information."

From another in the same State. October, 1826.

"Public sentiment, is, I think becoming more favorable towards your Society. A small collection was made here on the fourth of July which has been forwarded. I hope we may continue the plan. May the good cause prosper, and a free, enlightened and

Christian nation spring up on the coast of Africa, and that benighted land be made to rejoice in its influence."

From another in the same State.

"Your Agent was here some time in October, and succeeded in laying the foundation of an Auxiliary Colonization Society. The members of the Society, to the number of eighty, met on the first of this month and elected their officers and Board of Managers. I am happy to say that most of the Managers are not only men of influence but zealous in the cause. There is in our treasury at present about forty dollars, and the members of the Board think it may be increased to four times that amount. Some think to ten or twenty times that sum. I have no doubt that in the course of the year I can procure many subscribers to the African Repository."

From another in the same State. Oct. 11th, 1826.

"In every attempt which I have made to form Societies, I have been successful; and in every case, I have been seconded by the most distinguished talents and piety.

"I am now spending a little time at home, but as soon as practicable shall make another tour. I am solicited to various places. Indeed the spirit of enquiry is awakened, and I could have pleasant and I think successful employment in this honourable cause, while a village remained without a Society." *

From the same. Oct. 4th, 1826.

"I have the pleasure to announce to you the formation of four additional auxiliaries, since the date of my last. Sir, the prospects of the cause are brightening every day. Among those who have joined and supported our infant Societies, are four or five of our present members of Congress, and many others of equal standing and talents. I feel gratified, when I reflect, that within one month past, I have formed ten prosperous Societies, and have excited a spirit of general enquiry on the subject in this part of the State. But, sir, I repeat that this success results from the *justice*, the *benevolence*, the *policy*, and *piety* of your plans, and not from the zeal and ability of its advocate."

From the same. Nov. 27th, 1826.

"I am happy to see the cause advancing in our country. Since my last, I have formed several Societies. The most intelligent

and influential members of our community, almost universally support our design. I am invited to Kentucky and Indiana, but have more to do in Ohio than will soon be accomplished. I have conversed with several intelligent gentlemen from Indiana, who are hearty in the cause. You may think me enthusiastic, but although I have been at home but twenty-four hours, I have received, since my arrival, communications on this subject, from persons comparatively distant, thrice the measure of this protracted epistle."

From a gentleman in Pennsylvania. Dec. 2d, 1826.

"There is not in ——— any formidable hostility to the Colonization plan, but the people require to be well informed on the subject; and I am satisfied that the most efficient means of exciting a favourable feeling towards it, will be to lay before them a complete exposition of facts well authenticated, which shall contain argument in themselves.

"I am persuaded, that the attention of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania may be attracted, and their feelings excited, by a proper exposition of the subject."

From another gentleman in the same State. Oct. 24th, 1826.

"After an eloquent and interesting address by your agent, the Rev. Mr. Peers, before a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of this village, a Society was established auxiliary to the American Colonization Society. Satisfied that nothing is wanting in this section of country to interest the best feelings of the citizens in favour of your Society, but a knowledge of its objects, principles, and doings, we appointed a committee to make publications, for the purpose of giving them that knowledge. To enable that committee to do this the better, it is wished that we may receive such reports as you may conveniently spare."

Masonic Benevolence.

In our number for July, we had the gratification to announce the adoption of sundry resolutions in aid of the design of our Institution, by the Winder Lodge, Baltimore, No. 17, and to publish the letter of a committee of that Association, enclosing a donation of twen-

ty dollars. By one of the resolutions to which we allude a committee was appointed to open a correspondence in reference to the Colonization Society, with other Lodges, "throughout the State of Maryland and elsewhere." We have evidence to believe that the efforts of this committee, will prove of inestimable advantage to our cause, and we trust that the charitable principles of Masonry, so happily exemplified by the Winder Lodge, will be illustrated by the Masonic Fraternity, generally, in the same manner. In a letter enclosing five dollars, from the Mount Pisgah Lodge, No. 202, Greencastle, Pennsylvania, a committee of that body state, "that the Lodge, though consisting of few members and weak in funds has thought proper to make this donation, to assist according to its means, a Society engaged in a great work of benevolence, in the accomplishment of which, both as Masons and as men, the members think themselves deeply interested." They add, "that the aid which might be derived by the American Colonization Society from similar donations from other Lodges would prove all-powerful, and that to afford it, would be consistent with those great principles which have ever been inculcated within the walls of a Lodge."

Society of Friends in North Carolina.

It will be seen, by the address of the yearly meeting of this Society, which we now publish, with what energy and perseverance, this benevolent class of Christians, are exerting themselves for the benefit of such people of colour as are providentially subjected to their care. We trust that the members of other denominations will not regardlessly behold so bright an example, but that they will adopt those principles and imbibe that spirit which have been shown so illustriously beneficial to the cause of humanity in the proceedings of this unostentatious Society.

Address from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in North Carolina, held in the 11th month, 1826, to the Quarterly, Monthly, and Preparative Meetings, which constitute it; on the subject of removing the people of colour under Friends' care to free governments.

It appears from the proceedings of our meeting for sufferings, as presented to this Meeting, that there have been conveyed to free governments since last year, about 300 of the people of colour under the care of this Yearly

Meeting; having been left to their choice of places. Upwards of 40 have been taken to Liberia; 119 to Hayti; 11 to Philadelphia; and the remainder to Ohio and Indiana; the expenses of which have been about 3,500 dollars. —About 600 are still remaining. It also appears that the following donations have been made us, to aid in this benevolent work: viz: 2,914 dollars 16 cents from an individual of the city of Philadelphia; 250 dollars from the Yearly Meeting of New-York; 1,000 dollars from the Yearly Meeting of Rhode-Island; 500 dollars from the meeting for sufferings of Philadelphia; and 100 dollars from an individual of Burlington, New-Jersey. It further appears from the reports of the agents, that about 500 of the remaining people of colour are willing to emigrate to free governments;—upwards of three hundred to Liberia; and the other 200 or thereabouts, to other places. All that is wanting are sufficient funds and opportunity. A donation of 500 dollars has been made by our meeting for sufferings, to the Colonization Society, to assist them in chartering a vessel the present fall, and 300 more pledged, in case their funds should not be adequate. Although it appears from the above statement, that a part of our stock has not yet been expended, yet, it will fall far short of completing the operations in view, in regard to this momentous work. We have therefore, cordially united in this Meeting, to endeavor to raise the sum of two thousand dollars; and although this is double what we directed last year, yet we think the importance of the subject, and the danger of delay, require it. It was referred to the representatives to be apportioned among the quarterly meetings, to be raised, and handed into the hands of the Treasurer.

And now, dear friends, notwithstanding all the varied difficulties attending this subject, it appears to us that the blessing of Divine Providence has attended our exertions, in a peculiar manner. Our motive in giving you this information and address, is from a hope that it will excite, in all the members of this Yearly Meeting, a concern harmoniously to co-operate with the meeting for sufferings, and the Agents, in their prompt and indefatigable exertions, in acting in behalf of the Society, for these degraded people. Do we not feel ourselves under the strongest obligations of acknowledgment to our distant brethren, for their generous aid? which ought to stimulate us the more cheerfully to contribute to this good work. If the Father of Mercies should continue to smile on our operations, we shall, in a year or two more, in all probability, be released from the heavier part of this burden; and feel the inexpressible consolation of having plucked from the jaws of slavery, a thousand of our fellow beings, and placed them in free governments, where they may enjoy the privileges of citizens; and the additional satisfaction of having been instrumental in performing a work which will doubtless have a very striking influence on the community at large, and assist in paving the way for the mitigation or removal of one of the greatest evils that ever afflicted the human race.

Signed on behalf of the aforesaid meeting,

JEREMIAH HUBBARD, *Clerk.*

Intelligence.

SLAVE TRADE.—No. 68 of the London Quarterly Review states, on official authority, some deplorable facts relating to the slave trade. Every day brings fresh proof that nothing but the civilization of the natives of Africa, by the establishment of Christian colonies on the coast, will ever put an end to the horrors of this traffic.

The American vessels engaged in this trade, are generally under the Dutch flag. One vessel under that flag was lately siezed, but the crew, consisting entirely of Americans, escaped unpunished.

The trade under the French flag is as vigorously pursued as ever, and the French government makes no exertion to check it. In the first month of 1825, 5766 negroes were landed within twenty leagues of Havana, many of them from French vessels; and nineteen vessels left that port for the coast of Africa. The Abolition Society of Paris state, on the authority of official documents, that slave captains throw into the sea every year, about *three thousand* negroes, more than half of them alive, either to escape from cruisers, or because the negroes, exhausted by sufferings, could not be sold to advantage.

"The Portuguese and Brazilians, so far from having the least respect for public opinion, consider the slave trade as an honorable and legitimate branch of commerce; and so little horror is felt among them at the enormities which are constantly occurring, that nothing is more common than for *ladies* to take share in an *ebony* adventure. In the case of one recent capture alone, there were *four* female consignees. The vessels with the Emperor Don Pedro's license, are universally in the most horrid condition:—the mortality and suffering on board of them almost too dreadful for description. It is stated that in some of those vessels were fierce dogs of the blood hound species, trained to sit watching over the hatches during the night, lest the wretched beings below, driven to desperation, should make any attempt to reach the region of purer air."—*Vermont Chronicle*.

A letter from Captain Clapperton, dated Hio, 22d of February, to a friend in Dumfriesshire, (and published in the *Dumfries Courier*,) states that he had been well treated in the capital of Youriba, during the two months he had been there; that the Niger was only two days distance, and certainly flowed into the Bight of Benin; that he was about to start for Youri, near which Mungo Park was killed; and that his travels hitherto had been over new and unknown regions of considerable interest.

AFRICAN FEMALE TRACT ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF N. YORK.

We learn with pleasure, that an association under the above title, auxiliary to the American Tract Society, was formed in this city on the 20th inst. with a fair prospect of extensive usefulness. The Board by which it is to be conducted, with the exception of the Directress, consists wholly of coloured fe-

males. A subscription of 25 or 50 cents annually, constitutes membership. The treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Brown, will receive subscriptions, and deliver to any member, the Tracts to which she may be entitled, at No. 12, Barclay street.

It is a characteristic of Religious Tracts, as of the Bible, that, while the Christian who has made most advances in knowledge and piety, may derive benefit from their perusal, they are also adapted to the capacity of the most humble. The benevolent ladies who have commenced this somewhat novel enterprize, will receive, we trust, the thanks of the religious community, as they certainly will the approbation of Heaven.—*N. York Observer.*

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION OF SLAVES.

The last Synod of Kentucky passed a resolution recommending to its members the religious instruction of slaves within the bounds of their respective congregations. On the 16th ult. the present Synod inquired of each minister what attention he had paid to the recommendation; and the answers were generally satisfactory. Fifteen schools for people of colour are now in operation within the limits of the Synod; and much is doing for the same object, in a less public and formal manner.—*Ibid.*

THE SLAVES EMANCIPATED IN MEXICO.

A writer in the National Intelligencer suggests that the slaves of American settlers in Mexico, recently emancipated by that government, were probably imported from Africa and Cuba, instead of the United States; and the Editors, in commenting on the article, express an opinion, we believe a correct one, that in any event the owners will lose their slaves, inasmuch as the law of the United States prohibits the introduction of such persons from abroad.—*Ibid.*

GREAT BATTLE IN AFRICA.

On the 7th of August, the Ashantees, amounting to 25,000, had advanced to Doodewan, and were met by 11,000 men, the whole of the British, Dutch, and other Troops. The battle lasted an hour, when the Ashantees fled, leaving on the field in killed, wounded, and prisoners, 5000 men. The loss of the English, &c. 800 killed, and 2000 wounded. The Ashantees left the King's camp and equipage on the field, in which was found the head of Sir Charles M'Carthy.—*Ibid.*

Auxiliary Societies.

Within two months past, about 20 Associations, (we believe more than this number,) have been constituted to co-operate in the great purposes of our Institution. Among these the *Colonization Society* of the *State of Pennsylvania* holds a distinguished place. Its first donation of six hundred dollars has been already received. The place of its location, (Philadelphia,) the character of its members, and the zeal and success with which it has commenced operation, afford promise of very important benefits to the cause in which we are engaged.

The citizens of the western part of Pennsylvania, of Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee, begin to look with deep interest upon our enterprise, and seem very generally disposed to give it countenance and support. Multitudes, we know, regard it as a work demanding for its execution the national exertion, and truly worthy of the national patronage.


It is painful to add, that notwithstanding the liberality of several Societies and many individuals, yet, in consequence of some unexpected demands for the Colony, the funds of the Society do not justify the outfit, immediately, of an expedition. We still hope for the means to effect this, in the course of the winter. The hazard of failure in a matter so important, must, we think, itself prove a powerful appeal to every Christian heart.

Resolutions.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society at Washington, December 14th, 1826, it was

Resolved, That the annual Meeting of this Society shall be held in this city, on the second Saturday in January, at eleven o'clock; and that this be announced in the public papers.

Resolved, That the Auxiliary Societies be requested to send delegates to the annual Meeting, and that the friends to our cause generally, be invited to attend.

 The place of meeting to be announced hereafter.

November 1st, 1826.

DEAR SIR,

In your next Repository, be pleased to say that the deposit in Aug. last, of 52 dollars and 25 cents by Wells and Redfield, was to be credited to the following accounts, viz :

Collected in the Reformed Dutch church in Tany Town under the care of the Rev. Thomas G. Smith,	\$8 00
Do. in the Reformed Protestant Dutch church, Market street, New-York, under the pastoral care of Dr. Wm. M'Murray,	44 25
	<hr/> \$52 25

In the report of September 20th, the \$75 44 collected in Albany, N. Y. should have been put to the credit of Presbyterian and Dutch churches in that place.

I am, very respectfully your ob't servant,

RICHARD SMITH,

Treasurer of the American Colonization Society

R. R. GURLEY.

 List of Donations will appear in our next number